Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 PRS-01 IO-06 SSM-01 (ISO) W

-----060826 100036Z /72/63

R 091139Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4835 AMEMBASSY AMMAN AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS AMEMBASSY JIDDA

SECRET BEIRUT 3876

LIMDIS/NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: HEIKAL ON PEACE AND WAR

REF: CAIRO 13016

- 1. IT IS COMFORTING TO KNOW THAT KEIKAL'S ESSENTIALLY NEGATIVE VIEW OF THE UNIVERSE REMAINS UNCHANGED. SOMETHING, AT LEAST, IS CONSTANT.
- 2. WE OF COURSE IN NO POSITION TO CONTRADICT HIS REMARKS AS THEY RELATE TO EGYPT. THERE IS ONE POINT, HOWEVER, WHERE WE FEEL HE MAY BE WRONG; I.E., HIS REMARK THAT MASS OPINION IN THE ARAB WORLD IS NOT PREPARED FOR PEACE. AS FAR AS LEBANON IS CONCERNED, THERE HAS BEEN A REMARKABLE SHIFT IN THE STATE OF THAT OPINION OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS. THE LEBANESE MAN IN THE STREET, MOSLEM OR CHRISTIAN, IS THOROUGHLY FED UP WITH THE PALESTINE PROBLEM AND IS READY FOR PEACE. WE CAN WELL IMAGINE HEIKAL SAYING THAT LEBANON IS NOT ARAB (HOW SWEET SECRET

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THAT WOULD BE TO PIERRE GEMAYEL*), BUT WE ALSO WONDER JUST HOW READY TO FIGHT THE OTHERS ARE. FROM THE VIBRATIONS REGISTERED HERE WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THE ARABS IN GENERAL, WITH THE OBVIOUS EXCEPTIONS OF THE REJECTIONISTS, WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO BE LED TO A PEACE AGREEMENT THEY COULD ACCEPT. THE OPERATIVE WORD IS LED. PARKER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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